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ABSTRACT

The paper considers implications of proposed federal rules based on Public Laws 93-112, 93-516, and 95-602 which provide for a broad range of recreation strategies to serve the disabled. Noted among features of the rules are a high level of concurrence and acceptance of the recreational authorizations: excellence in developing rules to implement the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974, and the Rehabilitation, Comprehensive Services, and Developmental Disabilities Amendments of 1978: support for special projects, demonstration, and program initiation: no requirement to provide recreation and no Congressional appropriation or Rehabilitation Services Administration budget for special projects and demonstrations: addition of therapeutic recreation service, prevocational conditioning or recreational therapy, and physical and mental restoration services; and grants for establishing or operating comprehensive rehabilitation facilities. Appended are an analysis and schedule of comments on the recreation authorizations in the proposed rules: memorandums regarding submissions on proposed rules and general comments on proposed rules by the president of Special Recreation, Inc.: and a sample press release. (SBH)

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Recreation Authorized in Federal Rehabilitation Rules

Proposed Federal Rules for Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabiliation Programs Authorized Recreation as the Fifth Dimension of Rehabiliation

by

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The University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

Dr. John A. Nesbitt is Professor of Recreation Education at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242. He is Chairman of the AALR Public Affairs Committee as well as serving as President of Special Recreation, Inc., a national non-profit organization advocating the recreation rights and needs of people who are handicapped. He also is Chairman of the Committee on Recreation and Leisure of the U.S. President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and currently he is conducting a U.S. Bureau of Education for the Handicapped project, THE LEISURE PROJECT, which provides preservice and inservice training in recreation for handicapped children and youth.

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TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

As early as 1955 it was the dream of many rehabilitation and recreation leaders that the Federal-state vocational rehabilitation program would include authorization for the provision of recreation services for vocational rehabilitation clients.

Since 1960 rehabilitation and recreation leaders have hoped that Federal rehabilitation services would be provided to independent living rehabilitation clients, i.e., severely handicapped, and that recreation would be a dimension of those services.

The dream that recreation would be a dimension of rehabilitation services provided through the State-Federal rehabilitation program has become a reality.

The proposed rules for the Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation Programs have been issued. (See Federal Register, Thursday, November 29, 1979, Vol. 44, No. 231, pp. 68564-68621.) These proposed rules are based on Public Laws 93-112, 93-516, and 95-602. Recreation is cited directly in authorizations in seven sections as follows:

Section 1361.1 -- Citing therapeutic recreation as part of the authorizations for Physical and Mental Restoration Services and Rehabilitation Facilities
Section 1362.54 -- Citing recreation services as part of the authorization for Grants for Establishing or Operating Comprehensive Rehabilitation Centers
Section 1362.70 -- Citing therapeutic recreation as part of the authorization for Rehabilitation Long-Term Training
Section 1362.100 -- Citing recreational activities as a dimension of the authorization of Projects for the Establishment and Operation of Centers for Independent Living
Section 1362.108 -- Authorization of Special Projects and Demonstrations for Making Recreation Activities Accessible to Handicapped Individuals
Section 1362.109 -- Authorization of Project Grants for the Initiation of Special Recreation Programs for Handicapped Individuals
Section 1363.37 -- Citation of therapeutic recreation and recreation activities as elements of the authorization for Scope of State Unit Program; Independent Living Rehabilitation Services for Individuals.

The primary mission of the vocational rehabilitation program is employment of disabled. However, the proposed rules signal recognition of recreation as a major dimension of total rehabilitation along with the medical, vocational, social and educational dimensions.

Vast Opportunity for Recreation Program Development

There is vast opportunity for recreation personnel, groups and organizations to work within the proposed VR-ILR program rules. What actually results will depend on the recreation initiatives that come from clients, recreation advocates, rehabilitation professionals and recreation professionals. If initiative and developmental support are lacking then the recreation potential of the VR-ILR programs will not be achieved. There is no question that a "recreation service vacuum" has existed over the last 25 years and exists now. The new focus on independent living rehabilitation services for severely handicapped will create an even larger recreation service vacuum in the future as that program develops. If recreation advocates and professionals are able to respond to the need that exists and will exist they will make an outstanding contribution. If they are not able to respond then it may be anticipated and hoped that the need will be met by others. Necessarily, these "others" will have to experience a period of "on the job learning" about recreation but once this has been accomplished it may be ancticipated that recreation programming will expand rapidly.

Range of Program Options

The recreation authorizations within the VR-ILR programs' proposed rules provide for a range of recreation strategies. The recreation authorizations reiterate legislative language designating the provision of recreation, recreation activities, special recreation and therapeutic recreation. Further, the proposed rules cite legislative language providing for art therapy, dance therapy, drama therapy and music therapy. The intention is to create a range of modality options. The expectation is that these options will be employed in ways that benefit the individual VR or ILR client. Further, it is anticipated that new options will develop over the next five and ten years.

It should be noted that the proposed rules also include attention to "life activities", "community living" and "quality of life". Thus, the opportunity has been created for recreation as well as other modalities to seek means of directly contributing to individual functioning relative to these broad social goals for all people.

Specific Recreation Activities Cited

The proposed rules cite the following recreation activities in Sections 1362.108 and 1362.109:

> "...indoor and outdoor recreation activities; competitive, active, and quiet recreation activities; social activities; and recreation activities related to the fine arts. These activities may include but are not limited to, arts, camping, dance, drama, fitness, 4-H, scouting, sports, travel and other related recreation activites...."

"Mission Statement for Recreation in Rehabilitation of Disabled Adults"

In particular, language in the proposed rules in Section 1632.109 sets forth a veritable "Mission Statement for Recreation in Rehabilitation of Disabled Adults". This section states that recreation activities should be designed to:

" (i) To promote personal satisfaction;
" (ii) To provide equal recreation opportunity;
"(iii) To provide normalization experiences;
" (iv) To foster social interaction and physical and mental health; and
" (v) To provide individualized rehabilitation and therapeutic activities to alleviate the effects of disabilities."

This statement of objectives for recreation with people who are disabled advances a perception of the disabled person as being first and foremost a person with rights, needs, desires and aspirations the same as any other person. Implicit is the fact that it rejects the medical model and labelling approaches. It embraces the whole person approach. It is based on the presumption of the person's abilities and rights. This is as it should be for no person, able-bodied or disabled, should be recreationally handicapped. Every person should be and can be recreationally able to the fullest extent of his or her talents and aspirations. Indeed, the objectives of recreation in the VR-ILR programs proposed rules provide goals which everyone - consumers, advocates, volunteers, professionals and the public at large - can embrace through this decade and the next.

High Level of Concurrance and Acceptance

There is broad general concurrance and acceptance of the recreational authorizations in the proposed rules for the VR-ILR programs. Informal comments by regional and state vocational rehabilitation officials indicate acceptance. Exchanges of information among the National Therapeutic Recreation Society branch of the National Recreation and Park Association, the American Association for Leisure and Recreation and organizations such as the National Easter Seal Society and Special Recreation, Inc., indicate broad concensus on the recreation authorizations. It is gratifying that service agencies, public agencies, advocacy organizations and professional bodies are in basic agreement. This creates a foundation on which broad cooperation can be based.

Excellence in Rulemaking

An excellent service has been rendered in the creation of Federal rules implementing the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974 and the Rehabilitation, Comprehensive Services, and Developmental Disabilities Amendments of 1978. Full, open and complete exchange has taken place among professionals, consumers, public agencies and service organization at the national, state and local levels. Commendation for the managements of this very successful process is due to Mr. Robert H. Humphreys, RSA Commissioner, Mr. Harold F. Shay, Coordinator, and the staff of the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Need for Special Projects, Demonstration, Program Initiation

The authorizations providing recreation in the proposed rules are as supportive of recreation as the legislative enactments allow. The proposed rules are as complete as they could or should be based on the level of recreation program delivery at the present time within the State-Federal rehabilitation services program. There is a fundamental need for special projects and demonstration, research and evaluation and project grants for initiation of special recreation programs as authorized in Section 1362.108, Special Projects and Demonstrations for Making Recreation Activities Accessible to Handicapped Individuals and Section 1362.109, Project Grants for the Initiation of Special Recreation Programs for Handicapped Individuals.

Recreation "Optional" and Not Funded

Readers should be aware of two important facts about recreation in the VR-ILR proposed rules and the programs that will follow. First, recreation is an optional dimension of these programs. While the authorization for recreation is clear, there is no requirement to provide recreation as, for example, there is a requirement that there be individualized written rehabilitation plans. Second, as matters stand at the present time there is no Congressional appropriation or RSA budget for either Section 1362.108, Special Projects and Demonstrations for Making Recreation Activities Accessible to Handicapped Individuals, or Section 1362.109, Project Grants for the Initiation of Special Recreation Programs for Handicapped Individuals.

Need for Staffing and Funding

It is important that means be provided of guiding and supporting the development of recreation programs and services within the emerging VR-ILR programs. First, it is important that professional recreation guidance be available within the State-Federal vocational rehabilitation service system. It would be desirable that full time professional staff be available within the Federal RSA office as soon as possible and within the Regional RSA offices subsequently. Further, it is highly desirable that professional recreation staff be available full time within the State offices. Professional recreation personnel are employed in a few state vocational rehabilitation services and this provides the basis for further employment of professional personnel at the state level.

Implications for AALR Members

Every recreation professional and recreation for handicapped advocate who wishes can contribute to the emerging VR-ILR programs authorized in the proposed rules. As rehabilitation services at the state and local level seek means of providing recreation, community settlement and quality of life goals for VR and ILR clients they will be open to advice and suggestions about programs, resources, staffing and specific activities. AALR members can provide advice. Rehabilitation services will be seeking means of involving clients. Recreation professionals and recreation for handicapped advocates can assist by facilitating access to standard community recreation programs and services. Rehabilitation services will be seeking means of expanding existing recreation and services to severely handicapped and homebound. Professionals and advocates have background and experience that can be used. Professionals and advocates whose primary expertise is therapeutic or special recreation may contribute directly to providing "individualized rehabilitation and therapeutic activities to alleviate the effects of disabilities". A major new opportunity for service by professionals in recreation is in the process of opening up.

Other Key Features in the Proposed Rules

There are a number of key features in the proposed rules for the Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation programs. First, in Section 1361.1, Terms, "therapeutic recreation service" has been added to the designated listing of "physical and mental restoration services". Previously, therapeutic recreation service was not listed. Now therapeutic recreation service is cited along with physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and hearing therapy, psychological services, social services and so on. Second, "prevocational conditioning or recreational therapy" is cited among the services provided by a "rehabilitation facility". (It is probable that the term "recreational therapy" will be changed to "therapeutic recreation" in the final rules when they are published.)

Third, many sections of rules cite the possibility of the provision of "physical and mental restoration services" which automatically includes therapeutic recreation service by virtue of the fact that the basic definition of physical and mental restoration services includes therapeutic recreation service. For example, the sections on "Case Record for the Individual" and "Scope of State Unit Program: Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Individuals" cite "physical and mental restoration services". Fourth, there are a number of sections of the regulations that cite "quality of life" and "community functioning" which obviously could be interpreted to include recreation activities or special recreation.

It should be noted that any response by professionals, recreation consumers or recreation for handicapped advocates requires a thorough examination of the proposed rules and when published the final rules for the Vocational

Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation programs. This examination will yield many insights into program potentials.

Fifth, there are sections such as Section 1362.54, Grants for Establishing or Operating Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facilities which directly cite recreation as a fifth or basic dimension of service along with medical services, vocational rehabilitation services, social services and educational services.

Sixth, training in therapeutic recreation service is cited in Section 1362.70, Rehabilitation Long Term Training which signals a continuation of support by the Rehabilitation Services Adminsitration for training in therapeutic recreation service. Further, by implication, recreation training might also be provided in other RSA supported training, e.g., continuing education.

Seventh, Section 1362.100, Projects for the Establishment of Centers for Independent Living includes "individual and group social and recreational activities. The Rehabilitation Services Administration is entering upon a major new era in the delivery of rehabilitation services to provide for independent living clients. Significantly, recreation activities and special recreation are a part of this major new service.

Eighth, Section 1962.108, Special Projects and Demonstrations for Making Recreation Activities Accessible to Handicapped Individuals is continued from the previous rules based on legislation passed in 1973 and 1974. While current funding has not been provided, significant levels of funding have been provided and various applications for support have been submitted. The

continuation of this section in the rules signals the continuing emphasis being given to making recreation "fully accessible" to handicapped in terms of attitudinal accessibility, physical accessibility, program accessibility and service accessibility.

Ninth, Section 1362.109, Project Grants for the Initiation of Special Recreation Programs for Handicapped Persons is in essence a Mission Statement for Recreation in Rehabilitation of Disabled Adults. While not funded at the present time, this section provides authorization for a new grant program which will provide assistance to communities in the initiation special recreation programs and services. This section will, when funded, provide for program initiation for both vocational rehabilitation clients and independent living rehabilitation clients.

Tenth, in Section 1363.37, Scope of State Unit Program; Independent Living Rehabilitation Services for Individuals, there is citation of therapeutic recreation as well as recreation activities. This section also cites drama therapy, music therapy and art therapy. Overall, this section reflects the importance given to the expressive modalities in general and recreation in particular. Given the number of years of involvement of recreation in rehabilitation services it should follow that recreation professionals, recreation for handicapped advocates, handicapped recreation consumers and others dedicated to fulfillment for handicapped in and through recreation have an extraordinary opportunity and challenge to provide needed services as part of the development of services for independent living rehabilitation clients.

February 18, 1980

Analysis and Schedule of Comments on the Recreation Authorizations in the Proposed Rules for the Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation Programs Administered by the U.S. Rehabilitation Services Administration Based on Public Laws 93-112, 93-516 and 95-602
by John A. Nesbitt, Ed.D.

Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68578	1361.1	Terms	"Physical and mental restoration services" means... (o)Therapeutic recreation services....	Recreation Cited	Maintain Citation
			"Rehabilitation facility" means... (c) Prevocational conditioning or recreational therapy....	Recreation Cited	Recommend use of term, "therapeutic recreation " rather than "recreation therapy".
68585	1361.33	Evaluation of Vocational Rehabilitation Potential; Thorough Diagnostic Study	"...comprehensive evaluation of pertinent medical, psychological, vocational, educational, (add recreational,) and other factors...."	Recreation Not Cited	Addition of Recreation Terminology
			"(f.) Scope of thorough diagnostic study... employment opportunities (add recreational functioning) and other pertinent data...."	Recreation Not Cited	Addition of Recreation Terminology

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68586	1361.39	The Case Record for the Individual	"(f)... physical and restorative services...."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	No Action
			"(1) Documentation of any post-employment services...."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	No Action
68588	1361.42	Scope of State Unit Program: Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Individuals	"(3)Physical and mental restorative services...."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	No Action
68589	1361.47	Participation by Handicapped Individuals in the Cost of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	"(2)...the cost of physical and mental restorative services and maintenance...."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	No Action
68591	1361.53	Scope of State Unit Program: Facilities and Services for Groups of Handicapped Individuals	"...but which are not directly related to the individualized rehabilitation program...."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	Recommend Addition of Recreation Citation

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68592	1361.71	Vocational Rehabilitation Services to Individuals	"(a)...Other goods and services...to be of benefit in terms of his or her employability...."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	Recommend Addition of Recreation Citation
68593	1361.75	Other Vocational Rehabilitation Services for the Benefit of Groups of Handicapped Individuals	"...provision of other facilities and services provided at rehabilitation facilities which may be expected to contribute substantially to the rehabilitation of a group of handicapped individuals but which are not directly related to the rehabilitation of any one handicapped individual...."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	Recommend Addition of Recreation Citation
68600	1362.40	Special Projects and Demonstrations; Improved Services to Severely Handicapped Individuals	(5) Demonstration methods of community outreach and education for individuals with special chord injury in areas such as... recreation....	Recreation Cited	Recommend Addition of Recreation Citation

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68601-2	1362.43	Projects with Industry	"(1)...provide... related supportive services directly or will otherwise ensure their availability...."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	Recommend Addition of Recreation Citation
68605	1362.54	Grants for Establishing or Operating Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facilities	(1)"Comprehensive rehabilitation center"...may, in addition, directly provide a broad range of vocational rehabilitation, health, educational, social and recreational services to handicapped persons.	Recreation Cited	Maintain Citation
68607	1362.70	Rehabilitation Long-Term Training	The balanced proram of assistance includes academic and non-academic training activities in... therapeutic receation for handicapped individuals, including homebound and institutionalized individuals.	Recreation Cited	Maintain Citation

February 18, 1980

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68608	1362.71	State Vocational Unit In-service Training	Entire section	Recreation Implied or Assumed	No Action
68608	1362.72	Rehabilitation Continuing Education Programs	Entire section	Recreation Implied or Assumed	No Action
68608	1362.73	Rehabilitation Short-Term Training	Entire section	Recreation Implied or Assumed	No Action
68609	1362.74	Rehabilitation Research Fellowship	Entire section	Recreation Implied or Assumed	No Action
68609	1362.100	Projects for the Establishment and Operation of Centers for Independent Living	(12) Individual and group social and recreational activities....	Recreation Cited	Maintain Citation
68610	1362.101	Grants for Independent Living Rehabilitation Services for Older Blind Individuals	"(vii) any other services designed to assist...with coping with daily living activities within family or community."	Recreation Implied or Assumed	Recommend Addition of Recreation Citation

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68614	1362.108	Special Projects and Demonstrations for Making Recreation Activities Accessible to Handicapped Individuals	**§ 1362.108 Special projects and demonstrations for making recreation activities accessible to handicapped individuals.** (a) *What is the purpose of this program?* Under section 311(a)(3) of the Act, grants may be made for special projects and demonstrations, and related research and evaluation concerned with operating programs to demonstrate methods of making recreation activities fully accessible to handicapped individuals, including the renovation and construction of facilities where appropriate. (b) *Who is eligible to apply for assistance?* Applications may be made by States and public and other nonprofit agencies and oranizations. (c) *What are the matching requirements.* Grants may be made for paying all or part of the costs of activities covered under this program. Where part of the costs is to be borne by the grantee, the amount of grantee participation is determined at the time of the grant award and is generally not less than 10 percent of the total cost of the project. (d) *What costs does the Federal assistance cover?* In addition to generally allowable project costs, Federal financial participation may also be available for those costs specified in § 1362.51(d) in the case of any project which involves the renovation or construction of a facility. (e) *Is an evaluative component required?* All projects and demonstrations supported under this program must contain an evaluative component to measure overall project effectiveness. (f) *What are the special project considerations under this program?*	Recreation Cited	Maintain Citation

February 18, 1980

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68614	1362.108 (cont.)		Approved projects must: (1) Demonstrate innovative ways in which recreation services and activities can be made fully accessible to handicapped individuals, with special emphasis on those who are the most severely handicapped; (2) Focus on as broad a range of recreation activities as is appropriate to the geographical area, including indoor and outdoor recreation activities; competitive, active, and quiet recreation activities; social activities; and recreation activities related to the fine arts. These activities may include but are not limited to, arts, camping, dance, drama, fitness, 4-H, scouting, sports, travel and other related recreation activities; (3) Provide for a schedule of recreation activities which does not interfere with a handicapped individual's attendance at work or school; (4) Utilize existing facilities for the provision of recreation activities to the greatest extent possible; and (5) Ensure that any renovation or construction of facilities shall conform with the requirements specified under § 1362.8 and with any other requirements of the Department in effect concerning Federally assisted building design and construction activities.		

February 18, 1980

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68614-5	1362.109	Project Grants for the Initiation of Special Recreation Programs for Handicapped Individuals	**§ 1362.109 Project grants for the initiation of special recreation programs for handicapped individuals.** (a) *What is the purpose of this program?* Under section 316 of the Act, grants may be made for the initiation of special programs to provide handicapped individuals with recreation activities which can be expected to aid in their mobility and socialization. (b) *Who is eligible to apply for Federal assistance?* Applications may be made by States and other public nonprofit agencies and organizations. (c) *What are the matching requirements?* Although there is no minimum share required of applications under this program, the applicant is expected to furnish as large a part of the total project cost as possible and to furnish an increasing share of the project costs in each succeeding year of the project period. (d) *How long may the Federal assistance be available?* A project may be approved for a maximum project period of 5 years. The project period may not be extended beyond the initial 5 year period. (e) *What are the special project considerations under this program?* (1) Activities carried out under this program must include as broad a range of recreation activities as is appropriate to the geographical area, including indoor and outdoor recreation activities; competitive, active, and quiet recreation activities; social activities; and recreation activities related to the fine arts. These activities may include, but are not limited to, arts camping, dance, drama, 4-H, fitness, scouting, sports,	Recreation Cited	Maintain Citation

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68614-5	1362.109 (cont.)		travel and related recreation activities designed; (i) To promote personal satisfaction; (ii) To provide equal recreation opportunity; (iii) To provide normalization experiences; (iv) To foster social interaction and physical and mental health; and (v) To provide individualized rehabilitation and therapeutic activities to alleviate the effects of disabilities. (2) The scedule of recreation activities must be arranged so as not to interfere with a handicapped individual's attendance at work or school. (3) To the greatest extent possible, existing facilities and resources must be used to provide the recreation activities and must utilize existing community recreation programs or service resources available under any related programs in the geographical area which are supported or authorized under the Development Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, the Education for all Handicapped Children Act, the National Endowment of the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, Title XX of the Social Security Act, the Community Education Act, and the Historic Preservation Fund and Land and Water Conservation Fund. (4) Recreation services provided under this program must be provided in a manner consistent with the provisions of similar services under Part 1361 of this chapter.		

February 18, 1980

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Page	Section	Title	Content	Status	Action
68618	1363.31	Eligibility	#(3)There is reasonable expectation that independent living rehabilitation services will significantly assist the individual to improve his or her ability to function independently in family or community or to engage or continue in employment...activities of daily living... living more independently...	Recreation Implied or Assumed	Recommend Addition of Recreation Citation
68620	1363.37	Scope of State Unit Program; Independent Living Rehabilitation Services for Individuals	(in) Therapeutic treatment such as ...therapeutic recreation, drama therapy, music therapy and art therapy.	Recreation Cited	Maintain Citation
			(8) Recreational activities.	Recreation Cited	Maintain Citation

Appendix B

Special Recreation, Inc.
362 Koser Avenue
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

February 20, 1980

Memorandum

To: Mr. Harold Shay, Director
Division of Manpower Development
Rehabilitation Services Administration
Room 3321
Mary E. Switzer Building
330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

From: John A. Nesbitt, Ed.D., President
Special Recreation, Inc.
362 Koser Avenue
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Re: Submissions on Proposed Rules for Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Programs by Special Recreation, Inc.

1. Comments on Recreation in the Proposed Rules

Please see the attached Schedule of Comments on the Recreation Authorizations in the Proposed Rules for the Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation Programs. These were endorsed by the Board of Directors of Special Recreation, Inc. on February 19, 1980.

2. Resolution of Highest Commendation

Please see attached the Resolution of Highest Commendation passed by the Board of Directors of Special Recreation, Inc., February 19, 1980.

3. General Comments on Proposed Rules

Please see attached a memorandum covering General Comments on Proposed Rules.

4. Related Attachments

The following articles, reprints and information flyers are attached.
"Recreation and Careers in Recreation for Disabled People", American Rehabilitation.
"The 1980s: Recreation a Reality for All", Education Unlimited.
"Recreation: The Final Dimension in Equal Opportunity for the Handicapped", Amicus.
"Leisure Fulfillment for the Handicapped: A Report on the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals", AALR Reporter.
Special Recreation, Inc.

Please feel free to contact me relative to any of the above documents and relative to any questions that you may have.

Special Recreation, Inc. is most desirous of providing support and assistance toward the goals implicit in the recreation authorities provided through the Rules for Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation Programs.

cc: Mr. Robert H. Humphreys
Senate Subcommittee on the Handicapped
House Select Committee on Education

February 20, 1980

Memorandum

To: Mr. Harold Shay, Rehabilitation Services Administration

From: Mr. John Nesbitt, Special Recreaton, Inc.

Re: General Comments on Proposed Rules

Range of Recreation Service Delivery Options

We are aware of the range of recreation service delivery options that exist including recreation, special recreation (see Gunn and Peterson, Program Design), therapeutic recreation, etc. It is very important that this range of options be maintained for at least the next five years in order that these options be fully developed, and, reasonably, new options develop. Basically, there can be no one approach to recreation as there can be no single service delivery system (see Nesbitt, New Concepts and New Processes in Special Recreation, e.g., consumer models, recreation and park department models, rehabilitation service models, youth service models, etc.).

Importance of 1362.108 and 1362.109

The importance of Sections 1362.108 and 1362.109 can not be overstated. These sections provide all those interested in recreation for handicapped with a basic philosophical and methodological statement that should carry service delivery through the present decade and possibly to the end of the century. In effect, these two sections provide a "Mission Statement for Recreation in Rehabilitation of Disabled Adults." It is anticipated that this mission statement will provide extraordinary nationwide leadership.

Concurrance with Statements by NRPA-NTRS and AALR-AAHPERD, Regional and State VR Offices and Voluntary Health Agencies

In general, preliminary exchanges among the National Recreation and Park Association-National Therapeutic Recreation Society Branch and the American Association for Leisure and Recreation of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance and Special Recreation, Inc. suggest a basic accord in supporting the authorizations for recreation within the Proposed Rules. Exchanges have also been conducted with regional and state VR offices and voluntary health agencies and it appears that there is broad support for the recreation dimension of the Proposed Rules which is most gratifying.

Role of State Agencies

Presuming that the recreation dimension of final Rules are consistent with the Proposed Rules, a significant proportion of the responsibility for implementation will fall to the state vocational rehabilitation agencies. Special Recreation, Inc. is eager to provide assistance in any way possible in advancing state agency programs and services in recreation for handicapped.

Some Ambiguity in Terms

It is noted that some terms such as "life activities" and "quality of life" could reasonably directly cite recreation. However, at this point in time there is sufficient authorization for recreation in its various forms and in relation to concepts such as "life activities" and "quality of life" to simply allow the emergence of programs and services and at some future date to review the part that recreation plays.

Resolution of Highest Commendation for the U.S. Rehabilitation Services Administration on the Creation of the Recreation Dimension of Proposed Rules for the Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation Programs.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Rehabilitation Services Administration has historically exemplified America's commitment to meeting the needs of the nation's adult disabled and has provided national and global leadership in the development of programs and services in the medical, vocational, social and educational aspects of rehabilitation of disabled; and

WHEREAS, the Rehabilitation Services Administration has for 25 years provided pioneering research, demonstration, training and special projects in recreation for people who are disabled; and

WHEREAS, the Rehabilitation Services Administration has prepared Proposed Rules* for recreation as a dimension of Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation Programs for clients served through these programs creating authorities for the initiation and development of recreation services for disabled adults; and

WHEREAS, the Rehabilitation Services Administration has created a framework for the realization of recreation fulfillment, recreation equal opportunity, recreation normalization and rehabilitation benefits through recreation as follows:

Citing therapeutic recreation as part of the authorizations for Physical and Mental Restoration Services and Rehabilitation Facilities (Section 1361.1);
Citing recreation services as part of the authorization for Grants for Establishing or Operating Comprehensive Rehabilitation Centers (Section 1362.54);
Citing therapeutic recreation as part of the authorization for Rehabilitation Long-Term Training (Section 1362.70);
Citing recreational activities as a dimension of the authorization of Projects for the Establishment and Operation of Centers for Independent Living (Section 1362.100);
Authorization of Special Projects and Demonstrations for Making Recreation Activities Accessible to Handicapped Individuals (Section 1362.108);
Authorization of Project Grants for the Initiation of Special Recreation Programs for Handicapped Individuals (Section 1362.109);
Citation of therapeutic recreation and recreation activities as elements of the authorization for Scope of State Unit Program; Independent Living Rehabilitation Services for Individuals (Section 1363.37); and,
In particular, advancing a basic philosophy and methodology for recreation for people who are disabled in Sections 1362.108 and 1362.109 and setting forth a range of basic recreation service delivery options;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Special Recreation, Inc. expresses its highest commendation of the Rehabilitation Services Administration for the extraordinary service it has rendered on behalf of the nation to Americans who are disabled fulfilling the intention of the U.S. Congress regarding recreation for disabled as enacted in Public Laws 93-112, 93-516 and 95-602.

* "Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Rehabilitation Programs: Proposed Rulemaking", Federal Register, Part II, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Office of Human Development Services, Thursday, November 29, 1979, pp. 68564 to 68621.

Resolution Adopted February 19, 1980 by the Board of Directors
Special Recreation, Inc., 362 Koser Avenue, Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Special Recreation, Inc.
362 Koser Avenue
Iowa City, Iowa 52240
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Press Release

SPECIAL RECREATION EXPRESSES HIGHEST COMMENDATION OF U.S. REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR RECREATION DIMENSION IN PROPOSED RULES FOR VR-ILR PROGRAMS

Iowa City, Iowa - The Recreation Dimension of the Proposed Rules for the Vocational Rehabiltiation and Independent Living Rehabilitation Programs prepared by the U.S. Rehabilitation Services Administration were recognized with a "Resolution of Highest Commendation" by the Board of Directors of Special Recreation, Inc. on February 19, 1980 according to Special Recreation, Inc. President John A. Nesbitt.

The Proposed Rules are based on congressional language in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Pub. L. 93-112), the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974 (Pub. L. 93-516), and the Rehabilitation, Comprehensive Services and Developmental Disabilities Amendments of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-602). In particular, the Resolution cited RSA Commissioner Robert H. Humphreys, RSA Manpower Development Director Harold F. Shay and the Staff of the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Special Recreation, Inc. submitted to U.S. Rehabilitation Services Administration an "Analysis and Schedule of Comments" and General Comments in addition to the Resolution of Commendation which cited the following recreation authorizations in the Proposed Rules:

Citing therapeutic recreation as part of the authorizations for Physical and Mental Restoration Services and Rehabilitation Facilities (Section 1361.1);
Citing recreation services as part of the authorization for Grants for Establishing or Operating Comprehensive Rehabilitation Centers (Section 1362.54);
Citing therapeutic recreation as part of the authorization for Rehabilitation Long-Term Training (Section 1362.70);
Citing recreational activities as a dimension of the authorization of Projects for the Establishment and Operation of Centers for Independent Living (Section 1362.100);
Authorization of Special Projects and Demonstrations for Making Recreation Activities Accessibile to Handicapped Individuals (Section 1362.108);
Authorization of Project Grants for the Initiation of Special Recreation Programs for Handicapped Individuals (Section 1362.109);
Citation of therapeutic recreation and recreation activities as elements of the authorization for Scope of State Unit Program; Independent Living Rehabilitation Services for Individuals (Section 1363.37); and,
In particular, advancing a basic philosophy and methodology for recreation for people who are disabled in Sections 1362.108 and 1362.109 and setting forth a range of basic recreation service delivery options.

Special Recreation, Inc. is a national non-profit organization dedicated to serving the recreation aspirations, rights and needs of all people who are handicapped.

Special Recreation, Inc. encourages local special recreation advocates to fortify the handicapped person's conviction and motivation to achieve recreation fulfillment, to serve as volunteers in recreation programs and activities, to encourage community goodwill and support for special recreation and to promote full access to recreation opportunity by working to remove architectural barriers, transporation barriers, program and service barriers, and attitudinal barriers.

For information on activities and materials write, Special Recreation, Inc., 362 Koser Avenue, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.